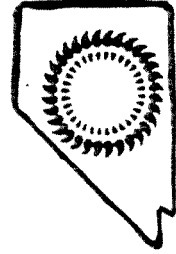


# NEVADA CLIMATE SUMMARY



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## SYNOPSIS

Like December, January was a warmer and wetter than normal month over most of Nevada. Much of the precipitation occurred during the first 2 or 3 days. This added to the flood woes of the western portion of the state, where the worst floods in at least 40 years occurred. This was as a result of heavy December precipitation, deep low elevation snowpack that rain and mild temperatures quickly removed, and full ground and surface water supplies.

Most locations in western Nevada have already had, more than the normal Water Year (Oct. 1, 1996 - Sept. 30, 1997) precipitation in just four months! For example, at Carson City 13.38" has been logged, Oct. 1 - Feb. 1, with a Water Year normal of 10.87 for all 12 months. Glenbrook has already had 21.03" with a 12 month normal of 17.98", Minden 11.96" and 8.13", and Reno 7.52" and 7.53".

## TEMPERATURE

Temperatures averaged above normal again this month, with departures generally in the 2 to 4 degree range. Extremes were not near record levels, as the mercury rose only to the 70's around Lake Mead and the Colorado River, and fell into the -15 to -25 degree range in northern Elko County. The Laughlin Fire Station had 73° and Sue Knowles recorded 72° at Boulder Beach, while it was -22° at Wildhorse Reservoir, -19° at Vya, -18° at San Jacinto, -17° at Boies Ranch, -16° at Reese River and -15° at Ruby Lake. It was 14° below in the Carson Valley at Minden and -12° at Gardnerville.

## PRECIPITATION

It was a wet month in all but the South, where Amargosa Valley had only .05" and Desert NWR near Las Vegas .06". Las Vegas recorded a below normal .25", but nearby Kyle Canyon at 7500 feet in the Mt. Charleston area had an above normal 6.27" and 28 inches of snowfall.

In the Reno - Carson - Minden - Tahoe area of the West copious amounts of precipitation (compared to normal) fell, most of which occurred early in the month. Tahoe Meadows at 8500 feet had 21.36 inches for the month. Added to the 19.15 for December for a 2 month total of 40.51". Nearby 6500 foot Incline had 14.43" (over 3 times normal). Other wet spots in the area were Genoa with 13.90", Daggett Pass 12.22", Sheridan Acres, where George Uebele had 11.02", with 5.97" on January 1-2, Jack's Valley where John Richardson recorded 9.27", and 8.93" at Betty Baglin's Mogul gage west of Reno.

Across the State other wet spots were Gerlach with 2.77" (almost 4 times normal), Lovelock 1.52" (3 times normal), Rye Patch Dam 2.35" (3&1/2 times normal), Reese River Valley (4 times), Lund 2.11" (3 times), McGill 1.55" (3&1/2 times), Battle Mountain 2.20" (3&1/2 times), Montello (3&1/2 times), and Wells 2.27", and Smokey Valley 1.47" (3 times normal).

Historical Note: The warmest January temperature was 87° recorded at Logandale in 1914, with the coldest -50° at San Jacinto in 1937.

The wettest recorded January was 15.85" at Glenbrook in 1904.

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